

Camden Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting – February 24, 2010

Present: Karin Rector, Chair; Douglas N. Johnson, Vice Chair Pro-Tem; Abby Stocks, Secretary; Carla Ferguson, Bob Gassett, Barrie Keegan

The January 27th minutes were accepted with the following correction in the first sentence, fourth paragraph of the old business section that should read: Doug brought a copy of the impressive Camden Community Forest Management plan.

New Business:

The commission was visited by Ry Hills, a Rockport resident who has started a program called Megunticook Rowing. The basis of the program is to develop a community based rowing program that is open to anyone. The organization is incorporated and they are working on their non-profit status. The rowers would like to build a permanent storage structure for their boats on town property next to the Lake Megunticook. A woodland path would also need to be cleared to enable rowers to access the structure and bring their boats down to the Lake. Ry met with the Camden Select Board and the Select Board would like the Conservation Commission to inspect the area the rowers are interested in building on. The Conservation Commission agrees to meet Ry and walk through the wooded area in question on Sunday, February 28th at 3:00 pm.

An article in the February 17th edition of the Herald Gazette was discussed. Tax increment financing (TIF) proposals will be presented to Camden voters at a public hearing on February 23rd, and voted on after the hearing. Although several projects in Camden could benefit, of particular interest to the Conservation Commission is the possibility that some of the revenue from the TIF proposals might become available to help build a path along the Megunticook River walkway.

The Green Fair is on April 17th at Green Thumb Nursery in Rockport. The Commission discussed having a booth, and it was agreed that we would probably have a presence again at the fair this year.

Doug reported on the Bog walk. CMLT has an easement on the bog property and every year they walk the perimeter. David Hutchison, Land Surveyor, provided Camden with a survey that is complete except for one side of the bog due to the fact that there are some boundary discrepancies with abutting neighbors. Doug thinks it might be a good idea to have a boundary so an official survey can be completed.

The CCC annual report is due on April 2nd. Abby will choose highlights of the July – December 2009 minutes and give them to Karin so Karin can type up a report for the Town of Camden.

Barrie volunteered to go to the town of Camden annual budget meeting this spring to request \$300 for the commission.

Beedy Parker called Karin to ask for volunteers who can help with a project called Green Sneakers. Volunteers are needed to go door to door and educate homeowners about weatherizing their homes. Beedy can be reached at 236-8732.

Barry would like to start CCC blog and he will talk to the Camden town office about setting up a possible link to make this happen.

Old Business:

Doug received a letter and an outline from Ian at CMLT. The outline informed us that we can trim and remove invasive species when we have our invasive species clean-up work day at the Megunticook River walkway. In addition to the removal of invasive species, the CCC would like to invite Jeff Scott, Jeff Cooler and CMLT to discuss how to further proceed with the Megunticook River walkway project. Bob would us to consider the possibility of getting a grant for development of the walkway.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58

Respectfully Submitted,

Abby Stocks, Secretary

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 31st at 7:00 pm in the Washington St. room